

GOVERNOR

## RADON ACTION MONTH

2010

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, radon is a colorless, odorless, naturally-occurring radioactive gas that threatens the health of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, radon causes more than 20,000 deaths each year, making it the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths in the United States and the number one cause among non-smokers; and

WHEREAS, former U.S. Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona issued a national health advisory in 2005 because breathing indoor radon over prolonged periods can present a significant health risk; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, one in 15 homes across the country has an elevated radon level; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina, based on data collected by the Radiation Protection Section in the Division of Environmental Health, radon is present at elevated levels in about 7 percent of homes; and

WHEREAS, indoor elevated levels of radon is a preventable and correctable problem; and

WHEREAS, testing for radon is simple and inexpensive, ranging from \$4 to \$25 for do-ityourself, with costs of repairs by a professional to reduce the radon level ranging from \$800 to approximately \$2,500; and

WHEREAS, the state's Radon Program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are encouraging Americans to test their homes for radon, mitigate elevated levels of radon, and build new homes with radon-resistant materials and features;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim January 2010, as "RADON ACTION MONTH" in North Carolina and urge our citizens and interested groups to promote awareness of the hazards of radon exposure, encourage citizens to test and mitigate their homes for radon levels and visit http://www.ncradon.org for additional radon information.

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS V ve hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleis, this eleventh day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtyfourth.